

Pre Amct  
3/A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Tilg, *et al.*

(Div. Appl. of No.: 09/362,899)

Filed: December 21, 2001 (herewith)

For: **Process for the Preparation of L-Amino  
Acids By Fermentation and Nucleotide  
Sequences Coding for the accDA Gene**

Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

Atty. Dkt. 21123/284139

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

***In the Specification:***

Please amend the enclosed application by providing a new cross reference to related applications before the first line of the specification, which reads as follows:

**-- Cross Reference to Related Applications**

→ now US 6,361,966 B1, 3126102  
The present application is a division of U.S. application 09/362,899, filed July 29, 1999, which claims priority to German application 199 24 365.4 filed on May 27, 1999.--

***In the Claims:***

~~Please~~ cancel all claims 1-16 without prejudice.

~~Please~~ add new claims 17-31 as follows:

- A2.
17. A process for the production of an L-amino acid comprising:  
culturing coryneform bacteria in which at least the endogenous accDA gene is amplified, under conditions suitable for the production of the accDA gene product; and wherein said bacteria produce said L-amino acid.